

Campbell Ramblings

Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea

Don't worry... you didn't miss our farewell for PNG!

We are currently aiming to head off in August this year, and thought some practice at newsletters would be helpful.

For our first edition, we will introduce the format as we share some of our journey from the inception of an idea of mission work, through joining Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia, and the training to prepare us to serve.



The call to mission...

Mission had been on our hearts and minds for many years, though we always considered a short-term option as being the most likely direction we would take.

A challenge from William Taylor, the main speaker at the 2012 AFES National Training Event (NTE), turned us around. From the parable of the talents in Matthew 25, he raised two questions which rang true with our situation...

Are we being faithful with what God has graciously given us?

How can we maximise the Master's assets for His glory, until he returns?

We had intended to offer God just a portion of our time in His service, then get on with living life our way. Graciously, He opened our eyes to the opportunity to give everything to Him, and experience just how awesome it is to serve such a Master.

Following the conference, we approached Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia, with a view to serving in PNG... or anywhere else the Lord wanted us!

Preparing to go...



We certainly don't feel like pioneering missionaries (complete with pith helmet and mosquito netting). The training and guidance we have received from Wycliffe has been phenomenal.

There have been courses on adapting to working as part of a cross cultural team, gaining an appreciation for Wycliffe's role in mission, and raising a partnership team to support us in the field.

It is very humbling to have so many people supporting us and praying for us to fill this role of Regional Centre management. And the training continues into 2014...

Prayer points

You will always find this section given a high profile on our front page, as we consider the prayers of our partners to be the greatest asset for ministry. Please use these points to direct your prayers for us over the coming months.

Ministry

- Thanks that our formal training is now completed
- Sustaining through multiple medical tests and the usual vaccinations
- Seeking provision of the required support in time for an August departure

Family

- Hannah – to have a positive witness as a Christian boss
- Settling in to a new church, opportunities to serve
- Elisabeth – April 12 wedding to Shaun Auld
- For them to keep God at the centre of their marriage



2014 EQUIP Summer School students and staff

Lost & (not yet) found...

Elspeth - An unexpected happening at Summer School was the loss of the emerald from my engagement ring. Many folk helped me scour the accommodation block and the gravel driveway, though all to no avail.

I felt as though I'd hit a brick wall and it took a couple of hours for me to process what had happened. Did the loss of the gem indicate my commitment (in any way) to my marriage? Was I too accepting of the loss? Should I still be looking? Even now things don't feel right. (Matthew 6v19-21)

Many Bible verses about seeking and finding have come to mind. I don't know where the emerald is but the Lord does know!

After thinking things through for a couple of weeks, I realise that the loss of the gem is nothing compared

to the eternal loss / separation from God that many people today are heading towards.

To be continued ... hopefully.

EQUIP Summer School...

The six weeks of intensive study was a real challenge, with so many new concepts to be taken in, and a heavy workload leading to a lack of sleep. Though aimed primarily at the linguistic side of things, we feel better prepared for life and work in PNG.

It was such a blessing to build relationships with students and staff, and to be encouraged to persist through the tough times.

Pray that the students will know God's leading in their future use of all they have learned.

Heading off to... somewhere!

At this stage, we are yet to be assigned to an area in PNG. What we do know, is that we will be in contact with multiple translation and literacy teams – with SIL alone, there are current projects amongst 190 language groups.

We are excited at the thought of contributing to the work, and seeing lives transformed.

The final hurdle...

Wycliffe requires us to have our financial needs fully covered before we go. At present, partners have gifted or pledged 53% of the \$3,167 monthly support required.

If you are able to commit to partner with us financially, either through a one-off gift, or monthly pledge, please let us know.

You can contact us directly, or make arrangements through the finance team at Wycliffe Australia.

Keith & Elspeth Campbell
E: keith-elspeth_campbell@wbt.org
T: 0431 181 441 (Keith)
0431 489 176 (Elspeth)

Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia
E: info_australia@wycliffe.org
T: 03 9712 2777
P: 70 Graham Road
Kangaroo Ground 3097

We are thankful to God as He has moved people to partner with us.